

COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE RESEARCH  
OVERSIGHT DIVISION

**FISCAL NOTE**

L.R. NO.: 3635-01  
BILL NO.: HB 1538  
SUBJECT: Children and Minors; Health Care; Health, Public  
TYPE: Original  
DATE: February 11, 2000

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**FISCAL SUMMARY**

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON STATE FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None			
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> State Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON FEDERAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
None			
<b>Total Estimated Net Effect on <u>All</u> Federal Funds</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

<b>ESTIMATED NET EFFECT ON LOCAL FUNDS</b>			
FUND AFFECTED	FY 2001	FY 2002	FY 2003
<b>Local Government</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>

Numbers within parentheses: ( ) indicate costs or losses.

This fiscal note contains 3 pages.

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**FISCAL ANALYSIS**

**ASSUMPTION**

Officials from the **Department of Social Services - Division of Medical Services (DMS)** stated they were unable to determine the fiscal impact of the proposed legislation. DMS cannot determine the number of children who would not be immunized for philosophical beliefs. However, DMS assumes that the failure to immunize these children would result in costly treatment for the diseases that the immunizations were specifically intended to prevent.

Officials from the **Department of Health (DOH)** assume the proposal would result in no fiscal impact to the agency. They stated that about than one percent of school-age children claim exemptions for religious, medical, and philosophical beliefs.

Officials from the **Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE)** assume the proposal would result in no fiscal impact to DESE or local public school districts.

Based on DOH's response, the **Oversight Division** has included no fiscal impact resulting from this legislation.

**Office of Secretary of State (SOS)** officials state the proposal would add philosophical beliefs to the reason that a parent could object to their child being immunized. SOS states that based on experience with other divisions, the rules, regulations, and forms issued by the Department of Health could require as many as approximately six pages in the "Code of State Regulations". SOS states that for any given rule roughly half again as many pages would be published in the "Missouri Register" as in the "Code" because cost statements, fiscal notes, and the like are not repeated in the "Code". SOS states these costs are estimated. SOS estimates the cost of a page in the "Missouri Register" to be \$22.50. SOS estimates the cost of a page in the "Code" to be \$26.50. SOS states the actual costs could be more or less than the numbers given. SOS states the impact of this proposal in future years is unknown and depends upon the frequency and length of rules, filed, amended, rescinded, or withdrawn. SOS states the proposal alone does not require additional personnel but the cumulative effect of other proposals that require rulemaking activity may, in the aggregate, necessitate additional staff.

**Oversight** assumes the SOS could absorb the costs of printing and distributing regulations related to this proposal. If multiple bills pass which require the printing and distribution of regulations at substantial costs, the SOS could request funding through the appropriation process. Any decisions to raise fees to defray costs would likely be made in subsequent fiscal years.

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<u>FISCAL IMPACT - State Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>
<u>FISCAL IMPACT - Local Government</u>	FY 2001 (10 Mo.)	FY 2002	FY 2003
	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>	<u>\$0</u>

FISCAL IMPACT - Small Business

No direct fiscal impact to small businesses would be expected as a result of this proposal.

DESCRIPTION

Currently, a parent may exempt a child from immunizations required for school attendance on religious grounds or when immunizations are medically contraindicated. This proposal would add an exemption based on philosophical beliefs. In this case, a notarized statement to the school administrator would be provided each year.

This legislation is not federally mandated, would not duplicate any other program and would not require additional capital improvements or rental space.

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Department of Social Services  
Department of Health  
Department of Elementary and Secondary Education



Jeanne Jarrett, CPA  
Director  
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